

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1991 - HB 2078

March 25, 2009

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Board for Licensing Health Care Facilities to create a category of licensure for “certified medication technician” (CMT) for individuals who can administer medications to residents of assisted care living facilities and residential homes for the aged.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Expenditures - \$41,500/One-Time
\$530,300/Recurring**

Assumptions:

- In 2007, there were 1,881 newly licensed practical nurses (LPNs). It is anticipated that there will be an increase of twice this amount or 3,762 new CMTs due to a shorter training period (six months) and the demand for this level of practitioner.
- The fiscal impact is based on a total of 3,762 CMTs licensed per year. There could be additional CMTs should a percentage of the current certified nurses aides decide to pursue a more challenging profession. The Department estimates that within six years, up to 50 percent, or 20,000, of the current certified nurses aides (CAN) listed on the nurse aide registry would decide to pursue a more challenging profession.
- A Public Health Nursing Consultant 2 will be needed to provide supervision to the staff, to provide a liaison to the Board, to test service and long-term care industry, to survey the training programs, to respond to inquiries and educate the public. The position will increase recurring state expenditures by \$81,635, including salary (\$50,250) and benefits (\$17,085), administrative support services (\$7,900), communications and networking (\$1,700), office lease (\$4,100) and supplies (\$600). There will be a one-time increase in expenditures of \$7,400 for office set-up and computers.
- Two Administrative Service Assistant 2 positions will be needed to review and approve applications and criminal background check results. The positions will increase recurring state expenditures by \$116,399, including salaries (\$65,820) and benefits (\$22,379), administrative

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support services (\$15,800), communications and networking (\$3,000), office lease (\$8,200) and supplies (\$1,200). There will be a one-time increase in expenditures of \$10,200 for office set-up and computers.

- Two Licensure Technicians will be needed to build files. The positions will increase recurring state expenditures by \$102,820, including salaries (\$55,836) and benefits (\$18,984), administrative support services (\$15,800), communications and networking (\$2,800), office lease (\$8,200) and supplies (\$1,200). There will be a one-time increase in expenditures of \$8,600 for office set-up and computers.
- One Attorney 3 and two Legal Assistants will be needed to process anticipated numbers of disciplinary actions. The positions will increase recurring state expenditures by \$229,399, including salary (\$139,626) and benefits (\$47,473), administrative support services (\$23,700), communications and networking (\$4,500), office lease (\$12,300) and supplies (\$1,800). There will be a one-time increase in expenditures of \$15,300 for office set-up and computers.
- The Board will contract with an examining entity to develop and administer the examination. The individual seeking the medical technician certification will pay the exam fee directly to the examining entity at no cost to the Board.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-11-216(a)(1), the Board for Licensing Health Care Facilities is authorized only to set fees for licensure, renewal of licensure, late renewal fees and such other fees as are necessary for the entities and facilities listed in Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-11-202(a)(1). Since the licensure created by this part is not included in the entities and facilities listed in Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-11-202(a)(1), the Board does not have the authority to establish fees in an amount sufficient to cover the costs incurred by the provisions of the proposed legislation.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a stylized "W".

James W. White, Executive Director

/kml